

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUBUMB 00191 290906Z

12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COM-02 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 INT-05 /040 W
----- 030692

R 290819Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1760

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0191

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, BEXP, EMIN, PORS, CG

SUBJ: SUMMARY OF LUBUMBASHI REPORTING

REFS: (A) LUBUMBASHI A-62 (B) A-63 (C) A-64

1. AS REPORTS VIA AIRGRAM MAY ENTAIL LONG TRANSIT PERIOD,
FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REPAIRS.

2. REF A REPORTS DECLINE IN U.S. EXPORTS TO SHABA OWING
TO RELUCTANCE OF U.S. INSTITUTIONS TO EXTEND CREDIT DURING
PRESENT ZAIRE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES. WHEREAS POST IS NOT
IN POSITION TO RECOMMEND MORE LIBERAL CREDIT POLICIES,
REPORT POINTS OUT PRESENT POLICIES MAY HAVE NEGATIVE
IMPLICATIONS FOR FUTURE SALES.

3. REF B DESCRIBES EFFECT OF CONTINUING FUEL SHORTAGE ON
MANY ASPECTS OF LIFE IN SHABA. BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS
CUTTING BACK THEIR ACTIVITIES, AND HARDSHIPS ARE INCREASING
FOR LOCAL POPULATION. LATTER HAS CAUSED DETERIORATION IN
REGION'S GENERAL SECURITY AND MAY HAVE FURTHER IMPLICATIONS
FOR SAME.

4. REF C REPORTS CONTINUING CUTBACKS IN GECAMINES OPERATION
DUE TO SHORTAGES OF FUEL AND OTHER MATERIALS. ALL WORK IN
OPEN PIT MINES HAS NOW CEASED AND UNDERGROUND OPERATIONS
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DECLINING. MUCH OF GECAMINES STAFF APPEARS SURPRISINGLY

UNCONCERNED, BUT ONE FORMER DIRECTOR PREDICTS STRONG
POSSIBILITY COMPANY WILL CEASE ALL OPERATIONS BEFORE END
OF YEAR.
ADAIR

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